

***In the Claims***

The status of claims in the case is as follows:

1 1. [Currently amended] A method for operating a server for  
2 establishing a chat session between two users managing  
3 message communications in a network system, including a  
4 first user desiring to establish a chat session with a  
5 second user which does not have a chat application open,  
6 comprising:

7 said first user downloading from said server browser  
8 executable code for initiating a chat session;

9 said first user executing said browser executable code  
10 to display at a first browser window a chat invitation  
11 form including a header field, an instruction field,  
12 one or more fields for entering user identifiers, and a  
13 message field;

14 said first user entering to said chat invitation form  
15 one or more user identifiers including a user  
16 identifier for said second user, and optionally a  
17 message to said message field;

18 ~~first receiving from a~~ receiving at said server from  
19 said first user a request to enter chat mode with a  
20 second user;

21 ~~second~~ receiving asynchronously at said server from  
22 said second user a request an HTTP request to download

END920030006US1

2

S/N 10/777,799

23 content any content from said server or any other  
24 intranet or Intranet server, said second user not  
25 currently executing a chat applet instance and being  
26 unaware of said request from said first user to enter  
27 chat mode;

28 said server responding to said HTTP request from said  
29 second user with an HTTP response including said  
30 content modified with a chat user interface to open a  
31 browser window including a header field, a messages  
32 field, and a response field, which browser window  
33 downloads a chat applet instance for execution at said  
34 second user;

35 executing said chat applet instance at said second user  
36 to instantiate a chat session between said first user  
37 and said second user; and

38 establishing a persistent connection between said  
39 second browser and said server to establish a channel  
40 for message exchange between said first and second  
41 browsers with said server acting as proxy.

2-4. [Canceled]

1 5. [Currently amended] The method of ~~claim 4~~ claim 1,  
2 further comprising:

3 authenticating said first user to a message engine at  
4 said server to enable unicast messaging capabilities;  
5 and thereafter

END920030006US1

3

S/N 10/777,799

6 serving to said first user, in response to an  
7 asynchronous message from said first user requesting  
8 server content, a user interface to a collaboration  
9 tool for conveying text and/or multimedia messages with  
10 respect to said first user and an administration  
11 server.

6-12. [Canceled]

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4

S/N 10/777,799